

Duke University Libraries
Official orders
Conf Pam 12mo #104

D991395531



Pm
12 mo
#104

OFFICIAL ORDERS.

Headquarters Wheeler's Cavalry Corps,

JANUARY 1ST, 1865.

The following orders are re-published for the information and guidance of this command.

Each Division, Brigade, Regimental and Company commander will be required to keep on hand a copy of these orders. All officers will be held accountable for their rigid enforcement in their respective commands.

J. WHEELER,

Major General.

Headquarters Wheeler's Cavalry Corps,

MARCH 11TH, 1865.

GENERAL ORDERS No. 4.

I. Hereafter four (4) Roll calls shall be held each day, whether in Camps or on the march.

II. Any enlisted man absent from three consecutive Roll calls, without written permission from his Brigade commander or other competent authority, will be considered a deserter.

III. Any enlisted man, found one mile from camp, without written permission from his Brigade commander or other competent authority, will be considered a deserter.

IV. Any enlisted man on detached duty, who shall fail to report back to his Regiment, after completing said duty, will, at the expiration of three Roll calls from the time he should have so reported, be considered a deserter.

V. Regimental commanders will cause a book to be kept, in which shall be entered every detail from their Regiment. On the return of said details the strictest enquiry will be made to see that there has been no unnecessary delay in rejoining their commands.

VI. All men, who by the provisions of this order are considered deserters will be arrested. Company commanders will immediately prefer written charges in proper form against these men for desertion, and forward them, without delay, through the proper channels to these Headquarters.

VII. Any officer of any grade whatever, who absents himself from his command, for three Roll calls in one day, without leave, will be arrested by his immediate commander, who will send written charges against him, through the proper channels to these Headquarters.

VIII. Company commanders will certify every Sunday morning in

writing, to the Regimental commander, that all the provisions of this order have been complied with in their companies.

In all cases where the exigencies of the service render it impossible to fully comply with this order, the certificate will explain why it has been impracticable.

IX. Every Monday morning, Regimental commanders will make like certificates to Brigade commanders, regarding their regiments, and also certify that all their company commanders have made the certificates required by this order. In case any company commander fails to send in the certificate as above required, his Regimental commander will, with his certificate, forward to these Headquarters, the name of such delinquent, together with the reasons for such failure.

X. Brigade commanders will every Wednesday morning, forward these certificates, through their Division commanders to these Headquarters. In case any Regimental commander fails to make said certificates, they will forward the reasons for the failure.

By order of

Maj. Gen. WHEELER,

D. G. REED, A. A. Gen.

Headquarters Wheeler's Cavalry Corps,

JUNE 1ST, 1863.

GENERAL ORDERS No. 6.

I. When an Officer in command of an Out post shall arrive at the position he is to occupy, he will immediately throw forward from one-third to one-half of his command, divided into three or more Pickets, a distance of about (500) five hundred yards—one of these Pickets will be placed immediately in front, and the others on the right and left of said Picket in favorable positions, and each of these Pickets will throw forward Videttes a still further distance of about (400) four hundred yards.

II. To prevent any misconception of terms the main body of the Outpost will be denominated Grand Guard; the detachments in advance will be denominated Pickets; and the outer chain will be denominated Videttes.

III. Immediately upon taking his position the Officer commanding the Grand Guard will send Patrols to his right and left, to establish communication and learn the position of the Grand Guard upon his flanks. These Patrols will be kept moving during the night to prevent the possibility of a vigilant and enterprising enemy creeping in between the Guards. Patrols will also be kept moving from the Grand Guard to the Pickets and Videttes to insure vigilance on their part.

IV. From Three o'clock in the morning till sunrise, redoubled vigilance will be exacted and patrols will be sent forward at least two miles in advance of the Videttes.

V. Videttes must remain mounted and ready for action at any moment. The Pickets must remain near their horses with accoutrements on and gun in hand and at least one man mounted to warn of any approach of the enemy.

VI. At the Grand Guard not more than one-third of the men will be allowed to feed and water at the same time. In feeding, the bridle may be removed, but no trooper on any Outpost will be permitted to tie up his horse or remove his saddle under any circumstances whatever.

VII. By day Videttes should be placed in elevated positions where their view will be most extended. By night they should be placed near

the base of hills where they will be obscured, and any person approaching will be more readily seen against the sky.

VIII. Pickets and Grand Guards will choose favorable positions for defence, such as near houses, barns, fences, stonewalls, &c.

Every Vidette, Picket, and Grand Guard will, immediately on taking post, fortify their positions by building barricades across the road, or by felling trees in their front.

IX. Great care will be taken by Officers commanding Outposts to see that all Videttes, Pickets and Grand Guards have an unobstructed and well understood line of retreat to the main body of the command.

X. Videttes will under no circumstances allow citizens to pass their lines unless they have important information regarding the enemy, and then only by permission of the Officer commanding the Outpost. Citizens will under no circumstances be allowed to enter the lines, and then return; thus enabling them to inform the enemy of the arrangement and location of Outposts.

XI. In case of an attack upon the Videttes the commanding Officer of the Grand Guard will immediately dispatch a courier to notify the commanding officer of the main body of the command. He will also send other couriers to notify the Grand Guard on his flanks.

XII. Videttes will reserve their fire until the enemy has approached sufficiently near to enable them to discharge their fire-arms with probable effect, but it is their duty to notify the commanding officer of the Grand Guard of the first indications of their approach.

XIII. The Videttes and Pickets having been driven back upon the Grand Guard, the commanding officer finding his position no longer tenable, may fall back slowly upon the main body of the command on being assured that it is ready for action.

XIV. Any officer, non-commissioned officer or soldier on duty at any Grand Guard, Picket or Vidette, who shall abandon his post unless driven therefrom by the enemy, will be immediately arrested and charges preferred against him for cowardice.

XV. Regimental commanders will keep guards around their camps.

XVI. Should the enemy succeed, through the neglect of any Outpost, in attacking the camp of any regiment the commanding officer, unless otherwise ordered, will promptly form his command on foot and repulse the enemy at all hazards. The adjacent commanders will immediately saddle and charge in to aid in repulsing the attack. To enable the men to accomplish this without confusion, commanding officers will see that they sleep upon their arms with their accoutrements in their reach.

XVII. When any Patrol or detachment of any kind approaches the main body of the command whether in camp, on the march, or while engaging the enemy, they will send forward a trooper to give notification of their approach, in order that no doubt may arise as to whether they are friends or enemies.

XVIII. When Cavalry is Picketing in front of the main army with strong Infantry supports, Division commanders may, when in their opinion it can be done with safety, dispense with the line of Pickets and throw out their Videttes directly from the Grand Guard. When this is done redoubled vigilance must be exacted by the Officer commanding the Grand Guard.

XIX. All Officers, Non-Commissioned Officers and Privates will be required to commit to memory this order and so much of the Army Regulations as refers to the general duties of Guards and Outposts.

By order of.

Maj. Gen. WHEELER,

D. G. REED, A. A. Gen'l.

Headquarters, Wheeler's Cavalry Corps,

JUNE 3RD, 1863.

GENERAL ORDER NO. 7.

I. The earnest attention of all Cavalry is called to the importance of their observing the utmost accuracy in their reports of the movements and strength of the enemy. This is particularly necessary preceeding or during a general engagement.

II. The commanding General of this Army relies solely upon information received from Cavalry, to make his dispositions, and inaccuracies in their reports may entail great disasters.

III. During an advance of the enemy he must at favorable points be held with sufficient firmness to develope his probable strength. Prisoners should be questioned closely, reliable men be sent to elevated points, where his force can be viewed. Men acquainted with the country should be sent to hover on his flanks, and watch his camps at night, and all means possible adopted to insure beyond doubt accurate information regarding him.

IV. After having ascertained and reported fully regarding the enemy, Cavalry Officers will continue their exertions, in order to confirm the accuracy of their information, and learn at the earliest moment any changes he may make.

V. In making reports, great care should be taken to distinguish between rumors and facts, and in stating rumors the authority of the rumor should be given.

VI. Officers who hold the enemy in observation during his advance, will report at least once every twenty minutes, in order that the Commanding General may be frequently re-assured that the dispositions he is making are correct.

VII. Scouts and Cavalry detached in rear of the enemy will, at all times, use every exertion to learn the enemy's position and movements. Scouts will use untiring efforts to learn the names of commanding officers of the enemy's forces, particularly Corps and Division commanders, all of which will be reported promptly to proper authorities. In dating their dispatches the hour as well as the day will be invariably stated.

Officers are reminded that what may appear to them of little importance is frequently of great value to the Commanding General, as the most trifling circumstances, when connected with other knowledge in his possession, very often developes the chief purpose of the enemy.

To conclude; Cavalry Officers and Soldiers must always remember that they are the *eyes* and *ears* of the General commanding, and without frequent and correct intimations from them regarding the enemy, his dispositions must be faulty and his success by no means certain.

By order of

Maj. Gen. WHEELER.

D. G. REED, A. A. Gen.

HEADQUARTERS WHEELER'S CAVALRY CORPS,

JUNE 9TH, 1863.

GENERAL ORDERS No. 8.

I. Officers are reminded of the necessity of never sending men on detached service, or of permitting them to leave camp without furnishing them with written permission approved by competent authority, as under existing orders all Cavalry soldiers found absent from their commands without proper authority will be arrested and transferred to Infantry.

II. Division and Brigade commanders will frequently send patrols to scour the country for several miles around their camps, with instructions to arrest and bring into camp all men found absent without proper authority.

III. All men absent from their commands without leave for a longer period than seven days, will be dropped from the roll as deserters and invariably advertised in the papers which have the largest circulation nearest their homes. In case the residence of the deserter is within the enemy's lines or in places very remote, they will be advertised in papers which have the largest circulation in the Army.

IV. In all cases a reward of thirty dollars will be offered for their apprehension and return to their commands.

By order of

Maj. Gen. WHEELER.

D. G. REED, A. A. Gen.

HEADQUARTERS, WHEELER'S CAVALRY CORPS,

JULY 18TH, 1863.

GENERAL ORDER, NO. 9.

I. The attention of Cavalry commanders is again called to the importance of causing the horses of their command to be well and thoroughly groomed. The present unserviceable condition of so many horses is attributable in a greater degree, to neglect of duty in this respect, than to any deficiency in the supply of forage.

II. To insure regularity, and a thorough discharge of this duty, Brigade or Regimental commanders will, when in camp, designate an hour, twice in each day, when all the horses shall be groomed, for from one to two hours, under the immediate and constant supervision of all the Field and Company Officers. The grooming will not cease until the company officers have satisfied themselves, by personal inspection, that the duty has been thoroughly performed.

III. Field and Company Officers will satisfy themselves by personal supervision, that while in camp, the horses of their commands are regularly fed and watered, at least twice each day; and when on the march, they will see that they are regularly watered and fed when forage can possibly be obtained; and under no circumstance will a man be allowed to sleep at night, until his horse shall have been thoroughly groomed.

IV. Soldiers when allowed to leave camp, must go on foot; and under no circumstances will they be allowed to saddle their horses and take them out of camp, except when on duty.

V. No soldier, when on duty, will ride faster than a *walk*, unless ordered to do so by a superior officer.

By order of

Maj. Gen. WHEELER.

D. G. REED, A. A. Gen.

HEADQUARTERS WHEELER'S CAVALRY CORPS,

AUGUST, 3RD 1863.

GENERAL ORDERS, NO. 10.

I. Appreciating to the fullest extent the individual acts of devoted gallantry, exhibited by officers and soldiers of this corps in their many encounters with the enemy, and being desirous to enable those who have

thus distinguished themselves to secure the just reward of their services, the Major General commanding calls the attention of Cavalry officers to the importance of their adopting all means in their power, to insure promotion to the valorous, skillful, and efficient officers and soldiers of their respective commands. This is due to those who by their patriotic devotion to duty, and their valor and skill exhibited in the field, have shown themselves worthy of advancement. Officers and Soldiers look to their immediate commanders for this reward; and the President relies upon these officers to recommend its dispensation with strict justice. Thus may be excited that emulation to efficiency and gallantry, which does so much to increase the tone and strength of armies.

II. The Congress of the Confederate States has wisely authorized the President to make promotions, and fill vacancies, by appointing those officers and soldiers who have been distinguished for exhibiting valor and skill. Valor alone does not suffice to make efficient officers, but must be combined with skill, which implies ability to maintain discipline, and a thorough knowledge of tactics, to qualify them to prepare troops for the field and enable them to manœuvre their commands skillfully, promptly, and with regularity, when before the enemy.

III. Commanders are especially enjoined to use great care in their recommendations, so as to secure promotion to the most meritorious.

IV. Officers and Soldiers are reminded that by study, strict attention to duty at all times, and valorous bearing on the field, they may attain any rank or position their conduct may merit. Promotion by seniority or election is of little value, but how priceless to the soldier, his family or his friends, is an appointment by the President, rewarding him for exhibiting distinguished skill and valor, in a war to maintain the safety and honor of his home.

By order of

Maj. Gen. WHEELER.

D. G. REED, A. A. Gen.

The following is suggested as a proper form to be used in recommendations for promotion:

HEADQUARTERS 3rd ALABAMA CAVALRY

JULY 1st, 1863.

GENERAL:

I have the honor to recommend that Sergeant Charles Smith, of the 3d Ala. Cav., be appointed 1st Lieut. Co. A. 3d Ala. Cavalry, for exhibiting extraordinary valor and skill on the following occasions: On the 21st September, 1862, in a heavy skirmish at Woodsonville, Ky., Sergeant Smith was particularly distinguished by assisting to maintain his company in line, and preventing confusion in ranks, while it was being charged by a heavy force of the enemy. Being in command of a platoon of his company at the battle of Perryville, on the 8th of October, 1862, he led his platoon gallantly and in good order in a charge in which his regiment engaged; he also during that day, exhibited most commendable coolness and gallantry, thus assisting much, by his example and influence, in maintaining his company in line, while under a heavy fire of Artillery. At the battle of Murfreesboro', on the 31st of December, 1862, while in command of a platoon of his company, by his coolness and skill in manœuvring his platoon, he prevented its being thrown into disorder, while other platoons similarly situated were re-

pulsed and thrown in confusion. Sergeant Smith has at all times displayed skill and valor in the proper line of duty, has always maintained troops entrusted to his command in good order, and prevented confusion under the most trying circumstances. In charges he invariably leads his men with gallantry. The position of 1st Lieut., Co. A, became vacant by the death of 1st Lieut. James King.

Very Respectfully,

Your Obedient Servant,

A. B. _____

To
General Samuel Cooper, }
A. & I. Gen'l, C. S. A. }

Capt. Co. A, 3d Ala. Cav.

The law particularly requires that when officers or soldiers are recommended for promotion to any grade whatever for valor and skill, the particular acts of valor and skill must be mentioned with the utmost particularity. The attention of all officers is called to this point. One act of valor and skill is sufficient to warrant recommendation for promotion but it is best in the letter of recommendation to enumerate all acts of gallantry worthy of mention. It is also essential to be stated that the position to which the officer is recommended is vacant, and also how it became vacant.

HEADQUARTERS WHEELER'S CAVALRY CORPS,

OCTOBER 30TH, 1863.

GENERAL ORDERS, NO. 11.

I. Most grievous complaints are hourly reaching the Headquarters of this Army, of outrages constantly committed, by straggling Cavalry, upon the families and property of men who are fighting for their country.

II. The Commanding General of Cavalry is confident that these atrocities are perpetrated by a few bad men, who seek to avoid the duties, dangers and hardships of campaign, by on various pretences absents themselves from their commands.

III. All good officers and soldiers will lend every aid in suppressing such evils; which besides weakening our effective force, tends so much to reflect dishonor upon the Cavalry, which is composed for the most part of gallant, chivalric and honorable men.

IV. Division Commanders will cause efficient and trustworthy "Provost Guards," to, under their directions, thoroughly and continually scour the country in all directions, for a distance of at least five miles from their camps.

V. These "Provost Guards" will arrest all Cavalry soldiers belonging to any command whatever, who are found a distance of one mile from their camps, without written permission from proper authority.

VI. Soldiers thus arrested will be dismounted and sent under guard to the Provost Marshal General of the Army, for assignment to the Infantry. Their horses and equipments will be turned over to the Division Quartermaster and receipts in duplicate taken for the same.

VII. Division Provost Marshals will forward to these Headquarters, on the 1st, 10th, and 20th of each month, the name, Regiment and Company of all soldiers thus arrested, and to each report will be appended a certificate, that they have arrested every man whom they have found absent from their commands without proper authority.

VIII. Should cases arise in which men appear to be absent from

proper causes, yet are unable to show their authority, Division Commanders may at their discretion return them to duty temporarily with their Regiments; in every case however, reporting all the facts to Army Headquarters for final decision.

IX. Division Commanders will use every other means in their power to have stragglers arrested, whether near or at distant points from their commands, to accomplish which they will send their Provost Guards to any localities where they may learn stragglers are congregating.

X. Each Division Commander will attach an officer to his staff, whose special duty it shall be, under the direction, and by order of the Division Commanders, to grant passes to officers and men to leave their camps.

XI. The provisions of this order are equally applicable to any detached commands less than a Division.

By order of

Maj. Gen. WHEELER,

E. S. BURFORD, A. A. Gen.

HEADQUARTERS WHEELER'S CAVALRY CORPS.

OCTOBER 31st, 1863.

GENERAL ORDER NO. 12.

I. When on the march men become dismounted by the disabling of their horses, Commanders of Regiments are authorized to select a proper Officer, who will attend to the remounting of such men, by either regularly purchasing fresh horses, or by exchanging horses with citizens.

II. In all such cases a fair valuation shall be paid the citizen for horses thus purchased, and in cases where disabled horses are exchanged for serviceable ones, the difference in value of the horses exchanged shall be paid.

III. Where in a country occupied by the enemy, it is impossible for the horses to be paid for at the time of purchase or exchange of horses, proper certificates will be left with the citizen to enable him to obtain payment hereafter. Impressments will only be resorted to when it is necessary to prevent men from falling into the hands of the enemy.

IV. In all cases where to accomplish this object, it is necessary to impress horses, the provisions of the Impressment Act will be complied with, but in no case will horses be impressed from citizens, except when behind the enemy's line, and only then, when it is absolutely necessary to prevent the soldier from being captured.

V. Any soldiers who take horses from citizens under the pretence of impressment, except in accordance with this order, or by other proper authority, will be dealt with as the law requires. Any horse impressed for a soldier, will be paid for by him at schedule prices.

By order of

MAJ. GEN. WHEELER,

E. S. BURFORD, A. A. Gen.

HEADQUARTERS WHEELER'S CAVALRY CORPS,

NOVEMBER 1st, 1863.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 13.

I. Hereafter, when any property is captured from the enemy, it will in all cases be promptly turned over to the proper officer, on the Staff

of the commander of the troops capturing the same. This officer will hold said property subject to the orders of the Commanding General of the Army.

II. The Inspector General of the command will in all cases make full returns of captured property, and without such returns, no captures will be credited to any command.

By order of

MAJ. GEN. WHEELER.

E. S. BURFORD, A. A. Gen.

HEADQUARTERS WHEELER'S CAVALRY CORPS,

NOVEMBER, 10TH, 1863.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 14.

It being essential to the proper maintenance of discipline, that all officers and non-commissioned officers should wear the Badge of their Rank, it is hereby ordered that

I. (1.) All commissioned and non-commissioned officers of this command shall wear the appropriate Badge of the Rank,

(2.) This Badge of Rank of Commissioned Officers may be either of worsted or gold braid. It will be invariably worn upon the collar and upon the sleeve, when it is possible to be procured.

(3.) Inspecting officers will notice in their inspections whether this order is complied with; and any commissioned or non-commissioned officer, found without this Badge will be arrested.

By order of

MAJ. GEN. WHEELER.

E. S. BURFORD, A. A. Gen.

HEADQUARTERS WHEELER'S CAVALRY CORPS.

NOVEMBER 15TH, 1863.

GENERAL ORDERS NO. 15.

I. Every Cavalry soldier will be required to keep on hand in his saddle bags, two horse shoes, one fitted to the fore and one fitted to the hind foot. They will also keep on hand 30 horse shoe nails.

II. Each company Blacksmith must be kept supplied with one shoeing hammer, one rasp, and a clinching iron, in order that horses may be shod at any time on the march.

By order of

MAJ. GEN. WHEELER.

E. S. BURFORD, A. A. Gen.

HEADQUARTERS WHEELER'S CAVALRY CORPS,

NOVEMBER 16TH, 1863.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 16.

I. Officers while inspecting the Commands of this Corps, will be careful to observe the following points, and will send in their reports accordingly.

1st. Manner of conducting Roll-Calls.

2nd. Manner of Inspecting Arms, Accoutrements, &c.

- 3rd. Care taken of Ammunition.
- 4th. Manner of conducting Stable-Calls, and of grooming Horses.
- 5th. General condition of Horses.
- 6th. Whether care is taken to keep horses well shod, and if each Company has at all times Blacksmiths, ready with tools to put shoes on while on the march.
- 7th. Whether Horses are supplied with full rations of Forage, and are regularly watered.
- 8th. Whether care is taken to prevent horses from having sore backs; and if efforts are made to restore them when thus disabled.
- 9th. Whether men are allowed to ride their horses out of Camp when not on duty.
- 10th. Manner of conducting Drills.
- 11th. General ability of Officers to drill their commands.
- 12th. General Proficiency in Drill.
- 13th. Method of Theoretical Instruction of Officers.
- 14th. General bearing of Officers towards their men.
- 15th. Condition of Transportation.
- 16th. General care taken of Transportation.
- 17th. Whether a greater amount of Baggage, than is allowed by Regulations is transported.
- 18th. Whether men are supplied with Clothing furnished by the Quartermaster's Department.
- 19th. Quantity and quality of Rations issued to the men.
- 20th. Whether Guard duty is regularly and properly performed.
- 21st. Whether Camps are selected so as to promote Health, and are properly policed.
- 22nd. Character of Saddles, Bridles, and other horse Equipments.
- 23rd. Whether Officers and Non-Commissioned Officers wear the proper Badges of their rank.
- 24th. Whether Dress Parades are regularly held, and all orders read to the troops.
- 25th. Whether one man in each company is specially designated to carry an axe, slung to his saddle, and if kept in good condition.
- 26th. Whether proper measures are taken to prevent the burning of rails.
- 27th. Whether supplies procured from citizens, are properly receipted for by a bonded officer.
- 28th. Whether company commanders keep descriptive rolls of horses, and whether horses are sold without proper authority.

II. Inspectors must consider themselves always on duty, and perform their duties without favor or fear. They must have no friends to reward, or enemies to punish, through their official position. They stand as the censors of the command, between the Commanding General and all officers and men. *Officers who are habitually intemperate and neglectful of their duty, or ignorant and careless, must be fully reported upon.* The duties of Inspector are not always pleasant ones, but must nevertheless be performed *fairly*.

If *Inspectors* do *their duty*, the efficiency and discipline of the command can be much improved. It is hoped that they will *always* remember that their position is one of *great responsibility*, and that the General upon whose staff they serve, looks to them for *earnest and active work in helping him* to make his command what it ought to be.

The Inspectors are friends both to commanders and troops. Justice, good temper, a resolute impartiality, and the avoidance of a bitter and censorious spirit should characterize their official reports and actions.

observing all that is done amiss, left undone or done well. Thus they prove themselves equally the friends of subordinates and soldiers, whose rights, interest and honor are at stake."

Inspectors of Cavalry must use judgment, and must be officers of experience in Cavalry service. They must take care to attempt only the correction of real and important evils *which can be corrected*, and not waste their force upon those discrepancies which circumstances render it impossible to correct.

III. Brigade Inspectors will thoroughly inspect their entire commands once each week; and Division Inspectors twice each month. Full written reports of all Inspectors will be forwarded to these Headquarters, with as little delay as possible.

By order of

MAJ. GEN. WHEELER.

E. S. BURFORD, Maj. & A. A. Gen.

HEADQUARTERS WHEELER'S CAVALRY CORPS,

JANUARY 31st, 1864.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 1.

I. The great amount of ammunition that has been consumed by the Cavalry, and the great number of guns that have been lost and destroyed, demand the most vigorous action on the part of cavalry commanders of all grades, to have this most serious evil immediately suppressed.

II. Company commanders will inspect the arms and ammunition each day, and see that they are in proper order for service. Particular attention will be paid to see that the cartridges are of the proper calibre for the arms. Cartridges will be firmly packed in the boxes with cotton, tow, or crumpled paper, so that no amount of jarring can injure them in the least.

Great care will be taken in all inspections to see that cartridges do not become useless from the powder sifting out and thus being lost; and that rifle guns are well greased inside.

III. Cartridges become much injured by dampness; officers will therefore, at least once in each week have them thoroughly dried in the sun to insure their proper condition.

IV. When ammunition becomes so damaged as to become unfit for use, great care will be taken to preserve the lead, which will be turned in to the Chief Ordnance Officer of the army.

V. Division Ordnance Officers will inspect the Ordnance pertaining to their Divisions twice a month; and Brigade Ordnance Officers every week.

VI. Brigade Commanders will forward every Saturday to these Headquarters, reports of the small arms, pistols, sabres, ammunition and accoutrements on hand in each Regiment.

VII. Regimental and Battery commanders will forward to the Chief of Ordnance at Richmond, Va., within twenty days of the end of each quarter, duplicate quarterly returns of the Ordnance and Ordnance Stores pertaining to their commands.

VIII. Every Soldier will keep forty rounds of ammunition in his cartridge box, and forty additional rounds for each soldier will be carried in wagons.

IX. Any enlisted man not being able to account properly for his arms, accoutrements and ammunition, will be immediately arrested by

his Company commander, and charges preferred against him for the violation of the 37th Article of War.

X Orders from the War Department require that company commanders should charge on the Pay Rolls all lost arms and ammunition according to the following rates:

Enfield Rifle, cal. 577,	\$54 00
Springfield Rifle, cal. 58,	36 00
Smooth bore Muskets, cal. 69,	35 00
All other Rifles,	24 00
Sharp's Carbine,	45 00
All other Carbines,	35 00
Ramrods,	8 56
Screw Driver and Cone Wrench,	1 50
Wipers,	75
Ball Screw,	75
Spring Vice,	1 50
Kerr's English Pistol,	75 00
Colt's Army or Navy Pistol,	55 00
Single barrel Pistol,	15 00
Cartridge Box,	4 50
Waist Belt,	2 06
Cap Pouch and Pick,	2 23
Gun Sling,	1 20
Sabre Belt,	5 00
Carbine Sling,	6 00
Canteen & Strap,	1 50
Haversack,	50
Sabre,	21 00
Cartridges—small arms—each,	25
Percussion Caps,	05
Saddle, complete,	125 00
Cavalry Bridle, Halter,	30 00
Cavalry Halters,	17 09
Saddle Bags,	20 00
Breast Strap,	10 00
Stirrup Leathers,	8 00

XI. Commanders who fail to make these charges, will be arrested, and their pay stopped until the amount is made good to the Government.

XII. Division commanders will immediately have arms so distributed that as far as possible, each Regiment will have those of the same calibre. They will see that this distinction is kept up in the future.

By order of

MAJ. GEN. WHEELER.

E. S. BURFORD, A. A. Gen.

HEADQUARTERS WHEELER'S CAVALRY CORPS,

FEBRUARY 10TH, 1864.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 2.

I. The following Schools of Instruction will be established and maintained at all times, except when upon the march.

1st. The Captains and Lieutenants of each Regiment will be organized into a School, and will recite daily to the Regimental commander, or some other field officer. These officers will also be formed daily and thoroughly drilled by the Instructor in the School of the Trooper, Pla-

toon, Squadron, and in the use of the sabre. The theoretical instruction will consist of the School of the Trooper, Platoon, Squadron, Evolution of the Regiment, and so much of the Army Regulations as relates to guard duty and manœuvring of troops.

2nd. The non-commissioned officers of each company, together with two or more of the most intelligent privates will be organized into a school, and will recite daily to the company commander or some other commissioned officer. This school will also be formed daily and thoroughly drilled by the Instructor in the school of the Trooper, Platoon, and in the use of the sabre.

The theoretical instruction will be the same as instruction to officers, omitting evolutions of the Regiment.

II. Field Officers will recite at least three times each month, to the Division or Brigade commander in Cavalry Tactics, including evolutions of the Regiment and evolutions of the line.

III. Division and Brigade commanders will superintend these schools, and will use every exertion to facilitate and urge forward work so necessary to the proper discipline and efficiency of this arm of the service.

IV. The Board of Officers convened in each Division to relieve the army of incompetent officers, will commence vigorous action, and all officers found to be in any way incompetent to perform all the duties of their positions will be immediately relieved from duty.

V. In drilling, officers will exact the entire attention of the men, never allowing them to talk in ranks, or become listless while being instructed.

They will take great care that each evolution is performed with the utmost accuracy and precision.

VI. Officers of this Corps will be required to wear sabres at all times when on duty.

By order of

MAJ. GEN. WHEELER,

E. S. BURFORD, A. A. Gen.

HEADQUARTERS WHEELER'S CAVALRY CORPS.

MAY, 31ST, 1864.

GENERAL ORDERS NO. 3.

I. Complaints having reached the Major General Commanding that the families of officers and soldiers of this command, as well as other citizens, are frequently robbed of their horses, provisions and grain, by mounted men, who roam over the country, falsely representing themselves as scouts detached from this command, and falsely representing that they have authority from these Headquarters to impress said articles. Soldiers will inform their families that no such authorities are issued from these Headquarters; any purporting to be so issued being forgeries. Any such authorities granted by subordinate officers are illegal, and all parties making use thereof render themselves liable to punishment for theft.

II. Families of soldiers should endeavor to have these marauders and plunderers arrested and turned over to justice. They are, in most cases, either roving thieves or deserters.

III. All detachments from this command will invariably, when it becomes necessary to purchase supplies from citizens, either pay for them immediately, or furnish such citizens with duplicate certified accounts, made out as required by the Army Regulations, and endorsed by the

commanding officer of the detachment. Should cases arise where non-commissioned officers, privates or couriers are obliged to purchase from citizens without making immediate payment, they will, in addition to the certified accounts mentioned above, leave a copy of the order under which they are traveling.

IV. Commanding officers will see that all detachments leaving their commands fully understand the spirit and object of this order.

V. In cases where citizens are trespassed upon they should first learn what troops are committing the trespass, and then report the fact to the nearest officer, who will immediately see that proper steps are taken to secure justice to the citizen and Government. Citizens are particularly requested and urged to follow all soldiers who are committing improprieties to their camps and represent the facts to their Commanding Officers, who will see that full redress is given the citizen and the culprit properly punished. If the citizen cannot follow the guilty parties to their camps, they should make a full written report to these Headquarters, stating the Brigade, and if possible the name, Company and Regiment. This is the duty of all citizens, as by so doing they will succeed in bringing bad men to justice, and assist in protecting their neighbors. All officers are reminded that authorities for impressment are illegal, unless emanating from a Department Commander or General Officer in command of detached troops.

VI. All officers and men of this command are enjoined to use every exertion to have marauders, approaching their camps, arrested, in order that they may be brought to the most summary punishment.

By order of

MAJ. GEN. WHEELER.

JOHN W. LABOUISE, A. A. Gen.

HEADQUARTERS WHEELER'S CAVALRY CORPS.

JUNE 10TH, 1864.

GENERAL ORDERS NO. 4.

I. Soldiers, your Commanding General has, since the organization of this corps, exerted himself to establish and maintain discipline. This is absolutely necessary for your comfort and welfare.

Demagogues have falsely told you that discipline meant harsh words, harsh treatment and haughty bearing on the part of your officers. You have seen yourselves that it is basely false.

II. Discipline is the good soldiers greatest friend and protector.

Discipline equalizes labor, and requires skulkers and stragglers to do their duty, which is otherwise performed by meritorious men, in addition to their own duties.

Discipline requires the timid to march into action shoulder to shoulder with our brave men, who otherwise alone bear the brunt of the contest, while the timid skulker lags back to screen himself from danger.

Discipline makes you one body, which, with the brave spirits who are found in our cavalry, would make it invincible.

Discipline enables your officers to see that you are properly clothed, rationed and provided for in all respects.

Discipline prevents the straggling of a few bad men, who may commit outrages upon your families and other citizens, rendering your homes desolate, and stigmatizing a thousand good soldiers by the bad conduct of a single man.

III. Officers and soldiers, it is your duty to your country and to yourselves to use every exertion to enforce discipline in all respects.

You have fought bravely, you have labored and suffered, you have sacrificed your homes and property; you have but one more duty, and that duty is to maintain discipline.

IV. Captains, exact duty equally and justly from each soldier without favor or partiality.

Colonels, hold Captains strictly responsible that this duty is thoroughly performed.

Brigade Commanders, hold Colonels strictly responsible for the discipline of their Regiments.

Division Commanders, hold Brigade Commanders strictly accountable for the conduct of every member of their commands.

When bad soldiers neglect their duty, see that they are punished, and in the proper officer fails to take prompt measures, it is the duty of the next commander to see that he is punished for his neglect.

When crime, neglect, or misconduct, however slight, is committed, punishment must follow; its certainty alone can establish discipline.

V. The laws of your country enable you to displace inefficient and incompetent officers, and to supply their places with brave, meritorious and skillful men.

By availing yourselves of this privilege there can be no difficulty in accomplishing the object so essential to the welfare of your commands.

By order of

MAJ. GEN. WHEELER,
WM. E. WAILES, A. A. Gen.

HEADQUARTERS WHEELER'S CAVALRY CORPS.

JUNE 12TH, 1864.

GENERAL ORDERS NO. 5.

I. When marching, on arriving at a fork of the road, or any point where it is possible for a command to mistake the route, the commanding officer of each regiment, or detachment less than a regiment, will leave a courier to inform the commanding officer who follows, the road taken by the preceding troops. The courier will then rejoin his own command. This is particularly necessary during night marches.

II. Division Commanders will send a courier every thirty minutes to the Corps Commanders, to keep him informed of the relative position of the troops.

III. Commanders will regulate the gait with great care, and will not allow men to gallop in closing up their columns.

IV. At all halts the command will be dismounted to rest the horses, except when in the immediate presence of the enemy.

V. Division and Brigade Commanders will detail such rear guards as are necessary to prevent all straggling from the ranks.

VI. In the passage of water courses or sloughs, Regimental Commanders will leave a Field or other officer to see that there is no unnecessary delay in crossing; and also to see that men do not stop to water their horses, except when authorized by the Regimental Commander.

VII. One man will be detailed in each company to carry an axe, which will be slung to the saddle. To compensate for the trouble and fatigue resulting therefrom, he will be excused from all guard and picket duty,

but will be counted as effective, and will never be excused from fighting. He will be required to keep the axe sharp and in good condition. If lost its value will be deducted from his pay, and charges will be preferred against him as in cases of lost arms.

By order of

MAJ. GEN. WHEELER.

WM. E. WAILES, A. A. Gen.

Hollinger Corp.
pH 8.5